IRB Reading List: English 9

A major component of this class is independent reading. You will get a choice of books from a list of popular books that share a similar theme to the one we are reading together in class. This reading will be completed on your own and you will be tested on it in thirds. This makes up a significant portion of your final grade because READING IS ESSENTIAL. You will not do well in this class if you do not read. The more that you read, the better reader you will become and thus a better learner.

There will be some copies of the titles on this list available from me to check out at lunch time. You may not check out a book from me during class time to make check out fair to all people. You can also read a book on your kindle, free from google books, get it from the library, on your phone from the Marin County Library App, from Amazon or any other book store. If you haven’t been, you should try to visit The Book Place downtown on Grant St. All proceeds go to the library and they have an excellent selection of used books at a discounted price.

Please choose books that you have not read before. I have a record of the books you read for the summer assignment and you will receive a zero if you try to duplicate that reading assignment. The point of this assignment is to read a varied selection of books, not to read the same book repeatedly.

The quizzes for these books will consist of 10-15 questions and will be plot based. Do not rely on Sparknotes; I check it too and will ask you things that are not covered on it. Read the book; if you then need help, ask me questions or look things up online. You will not receive the benefits of reading by looking things up on Sparknotes.

Each one of these lists has books on it that represent a wide variety of reading skills and tastes. The books increase in difficulty as you go down the list for each assignment. So, the book listed last will be the most difficult.

IRB 1: World Travels with Short Stories

***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith**

***Dreams of Joy* by Lisa See**

***Haroun and the Sea of Stories* by Salman Rushdie**

***The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hoseni**

***Norwegian Wood* by Haruki Murikami**

IRB 2: Coming of Age Different than the Rest *Indian*

***Q and A* by Vikas Swarup**

***The Chocolate War* by Robert Cormier**

***The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger**

***The Namesake* by Jahumpa Lahiri**

IRB 3: Love and Separation (first half of semester 2) with *Romeo and Juliet*

*Looking For Alaska* by John Green

***Water for Elephants* by Sarah Gruen**

***The Road* by Cormac McCarthy**

***1000 Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hoseni**

IRB 4: Human Rights (First half of semester 1) with *To Kill a Mockingbird*

***Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams**

***The Help* by Kathryn Stockett**

***The Color Purple* by Alice Walker**

***The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak**

IRB 5: Good Vs. Evil- Microcosms for Society (second half of semester 2) with *Lord of the Flies*

*World War Z* by Max Brooks

*Quarantine* by Lex Tomas

***1984 by George Orwell***

***Brave New World* by Alodus Huxley**

***The Watchmen* by Alan Moore**